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**DECLARATION, POWER OF ATTORNEY AND
APPOINTMENT OF DOMESTIC REPRESENTATIVE**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

Clamping element with an integrated force sensor
the specification of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information known to be material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §§1.56 and 1.63(d).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)

Priority
Claimed

I hereby appoint David B. Ritchie, Registration No. 31,562; Marc S. Hanish, Registration No. 42,626; John P. Schaub, Registration No. 42,125; Gerhard W. Thielman, Registration No. 43,186; Adrienne Yeung, Registration No. 44,000; Steven J. Robbins, Registration No. 40,299; and William Samuel Niece, Registration No.: P47,824 as attorneys of record with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Please send all correspondence and direct all telephone calls to:

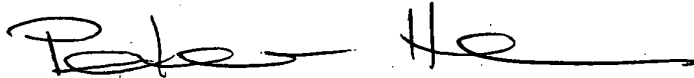
David B. Ritchie
Thelen Reid & Priest LLP
P.O. Box 640640
San Jose, CA 95164-0640
Telephone: (408) 292-5800
Facsimile: (408) 287-8040

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

1. Inventor: HESS Peter
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Date: 18.01.2003


Signature:



2. Inventor: BERNHARDSGRUETER Raphael
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Date: 25.01.2003

Signature:



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Date: 29.01.03

Signature:



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Date: 29.01.03

Signature:



5. Inventor: ONDA Nicolino
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CH-7310 Bad Ragaz

Date:

27.1.03

Signature:

N. Onda

REMARKS


Applicant hereby traverses the requirement for a new declaration. The declaration as originally filed in the United States Patent Office (attached hereto as Exhibit A) includes the full legal postal addresses of the inventors in compliance with the United States and International law. International postal regulations clearly state that "CH" means "Switzerland" and thus the address of the inventors are complete and correct in all respects. See, e.g., Exhibit B attached hereto.

Accordingly, it is hereby respectfully requested that the requirement for a new declaration that has, in addition to the internationally recognized postal identifier of "CH", the word "Switzerland" be withdrawn.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number indicated below. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-1698. A copy of the Notice of Informal Application is enclosed.

Dated: December 23, 2003

Respectfully submitted,
THELEN REID & PRIEST LLP



David B. Ritchie
Reg. No. 31,562

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Exhibit B

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